



TO: Surface Transportation Board

FROM: David and Sue Johnson 
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DATE: 1/9/08

SUBJECT: Takeover of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Co.

We are residents of Barrington and are extremely concerned about the possibility of the Canadian National Railroad takeover of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Co. The addition of dozens of trains through the area raises the following dangers to the community:

- ✓ Emergency Services & public safety will be negatively impacted... with the increase of response time of emergency vehicles to Good Shepherd Hospital and life saving healthcare as well as increased response to fire and policy related calls
- ✓ Safety of school children with buses crossing the railway at least 400 times a day
- ✓ Delay in Metra trains service impacting thousands of riders on a daily basis
- ✓ Lowered property values in the area
- ✓ Increased car traffic which is currently challenged with the delay in widening Route 59 and use of Rt. 12 & Rt. 14 as bypass routes for Lake and McHenry County residents

These are the most critical issues facing the Barrington are with the takeover of the Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway Co. however, these represent just the tip of the iceberg. We appreciate the opportunity to share these feelings with the Surface Transportation Board and trust that all resident feedback will be strongly weighted in the decision.